

## What's VoiceThread?

VoiceThread is a Web2.0 tool which allows you to **share a document, image or video with other people asynchronously online and create a discussion around it** using a range of comment options such as voice, text and/or webcam. You can send it directly to 'friends' or embed it in your online space such as Facebook, Netvibes, Blogger, wiki etc. VoiceThread has a basic version which is free but you can purchase an unlimited version.

## How can I use it for teaching and learning?

- Upload a video or image for discussion and invite students to comment
- Invoke critical thinking by starting a discussion around a research document or file
- Start student/ peer discussions as part of a learning activity
- Create a presentation for students or colleagues and invite comments
- Use as a different, interactive way of delivering learning content
- Have students create a visual portfolio for review and comment by peers
- Watch other educational VoiceThreads and share with colleagues / students
- Embed VoiceThreads in your blog, wiki or Moodle as interactive course content



## Who can help?

- Faculty eLearning contact (FeLC)
- Workplace eLearning contact (WeLC)
- The Hub: eLearning Support Officer  
p: (02) 6648 2408  
ext: 82408
- Local NCI ICT ServiceDesk  
p: 65862235 or 1800 888 23  
e: [nc.servicedesk@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:nc.servicedesk@det.nsw.edu.au)

## What resources will I need?

- A computer and internet access [broadband].
- A microphone (not necessary if your computer has a built in mic)
- Webcam (optional)

<http://intranet/eLearningKit>



# getting started...

## How do I get started with VoiceThread?

**Step 1:** Go to <http://voicethread.com>

**Step 2:** (Optional) Watch the demo videos - click on **What's a VoiceThread?**

**Step 3:** Register by clicking on the **Sign in** or **Register** button (top right corner) then click on **Register** in the dialogue box and complete the details. Click **Register** again.

## How do I create a VoiceThread?

**Step 1:** Click **Create**

**Step 2:** Click **Upload** to upload the file or files you want to use, display or talk about.

**Step 3:** Click **Comment** to display each image in turn.

**Step 4:** To add a comment, click the **Comment** button (under the image) and choose between **Record\*** or **Type** depending on whether you want to leave an audio comment or a typed comment.

**Step 5:** Click on **Add a title and description** to give your VoiceThread a title.

**Step 6:** Click **Share** to send it to a colleague or 'friend' OR embed it into your online space.

*\*If you have difficulties recording your voice, check the settings in the control panel (Start > Control Panel > Sound and Audio Devices). Go to the audio tab and make sure your headset or external mic is selected when you open the Audio tab. You might get better results if you just disconnect your external mic or headset and record using your computer's built in mic.*

## How do I send the VoiceThread to a 'friend'?

**Step 1:** With your VoiceThread project open, click **Share** and choose to send to a 'friend'

**Step 2:** Click **Add a friend** and complete the details to add the person to your 'friend' list

**Step 3:** In the My Friends list, click on the person/s you want to send the VoiceThread to, click on the appropriate icons allowing the 'friend' to view, make comments and/or edit the Voicethread.

**Step 4:** Click the big **Invite** button (it gets sent in an email – the 'friend' can add a comment at their end).

## How do I embed the VideoThread in my wiki or online space?

**Step 1:** With your VoiceThread project open, click on **Embed**

**Step 2:** If your online space appears in list of widgets, click on it and follow the prompts. If you want to embed it into your wiki, copy the code which appears in the box below the widgets.

**Step 3:** With your wiki open, click the **Insert media** tool, click **Other html** (in a wikispace) and paste the code into the space provided.

**Step 4:** Click **Save**

## Can I edit one of my VoiceThreads?

Yes. When you log in to VoiceThread, click on the **MyVoice** tab. Your VoiceThreads will be shown as thumbnails.

**Step 1:** Click on the thumbnail of the VoiceThread you wish to edit.

**Step 2:** This will open your VoiceThread project. You can then click on the menu icon on the top left and choose **edit**.

**Step 3:** Click on the **comment** button on the left (this will play your recorded comment, click **pause** stop it)

**Step 4:** Above the play button, click the **comment** button. You can then record, upload or type a comment.

**Step 5:** Click **save** when you're finished editing.

**Step 6:** The options button is another thing you might like to look at. It allows you to set your VoiceThread project to play automatically, or open in full screen mode.